# The Utah National Security and Anti-Terrorism Conference



August 28 - August 29, 2018
Salt Lake City Sheraton Hotel









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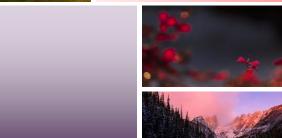












## The Utah National Security and Anti-Terrorism Conference: An Update for Local, State, Tribal, and Federal Officers and Prosecutors

Aug. 28-29, 2018

**Sheraton Hotel** 

**Salt Lake City** 

We are pleased to announce that our annual Utah National Security and Anti-Terrorism Conference will be held August 28-29, 2018, at the Salt Lake City Sheraton Hotel.

The conference is sponsored by the U.S. Attorney's Office in Utah, the FBI Salt Lake City Field Office, the Utah Statewide Information and Analysis Center (SIAC), and the Utah Chiefs of Police Association.

There is no cost to attend the conference. The conference will go from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. (Sign-in begins at 7:00 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 28.)

A final agenda will be provided later, but here is a sample of what we are planning for the conference:

- We are honored to have FBI Director Chris Wray scheduled as one of our keynote presenters this year.
- Captain James Seebock of the Las Vegas Metro Police Department's Counter Terrorism
  Center and Clark County Fire Department Chief Greg Cassell will be at the conference
  to brief us on their October 2017 tragedy when a gunman opened fire on a crowd of
  concertgoers. This presentation will highlight the coordination involved/lessons learned
  as law enforcement officers and medical personnel responded to the scene of a
  significant mass casualty criminal event.
- Lt. General Michael K. Nagata, Director, Directorate of Strategic Operational Planning at the National Counterterrorism Center will be with us. LTC Nagata previously served as Commander, Special Operations Command Central, a sub-unified command of CENTCOM.

- Steve Hewitt, Intelligence Bureau Chief for the Utah Department of Public Safety and Director of the SIAC, will join FBI Supervisory Special Agent Juan A. Garcia in a presentation on Law Enforcement Intelligence Sharing and a Utah CT Terrorism Threat Overview.
- Dr. Daniel Milton, Director of Research at the West Point Combating Terrorism Center will give us our annual terrorism update. We are calling his presentation "The Nature of Terrorism: How it is Evolving."
- As is our tradition, we will be featuring case studies at this year's conference including:

US v Muhanad Al Farekh a case involving expert testimony on radicalization, Anwar al Awlaki, and al Qaeda and overseas collection of forensic evidence in a war zone. Al Farekh is an American citizen but lived in Winnipeg, where he had family, while enrolled at the University of Manitoba. In 2007, he and two friends boarded a plane and left for Pakistan. He was linked to an attack on an American base in Afghanistan that occurred two years later. On Jan. 19, 2009, a truck carrying a bomb exploded outside the U.S. Forward Operating Base Chapman in Afghanistan's Khost province. About 90 Americans were working there, helping to construct buildings such as hospitals and schools. One soldier and numerous Afghan nationals were injured. A second truck carrying a much bigger bomb – 3,400 kilograms of explosives – never detonated. If it had, it would have been catastrophic. The plan was for the first vehicle to detonate at the gate so the second truck, following closely behind, could enter the base and maximize casualties and damage. However, the second truck became stuck in the blast crater from the first explosion. The driver of the second truck abandoned his vehicle without detonating its bomb and was shot and killed by security personnel. Testimony at trial showed 18 fingerprints found on the unexploded bomb matched Al Farekh's.

US v David Wright and Nicholas Rovinski, a case highlighting the successful disruption of three Boston-based subjects who intended to commit acts of terrorism in the United States in support of ISIS. This presentation focuses on the fast-paced initial investigation in June of 2015 that initially involved a plot to behead a conservative blogger who upset Muslims when she organized a Prophet Muhammad cartoon contest. This plot was never carried out. Instead, Ussamah Rahim told Wright on a recorded phone call that he decided to go after "those boys in blue," referring to police. (Continued on page 3)

Law enforcement officers approached Rahim hours later in an attempt to ascertain his intentions. Rahim brandished a large fighting knife and despite having been given numerous commands to disarm, he lunged at the officers. Deadly force was used to stop him sand he succumbed to his injuries. His two co-conspirators were arrested and charged. According to news stories, at Wright's sentencing hearing, the federal judge imposing the sentence told him: "You are not a monster, yet you embraced a monstrous evil." This case highlights the importance of a Joint Terrorism Task Force.

- Richard H. Donohue, who trains as a part of DOJ's VALOR Officer Safety program, will be doing a session on officer survival lessons. Mr. Donohue is a retired officer from the Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority Police Department. This presentation is a firsthand account of a violent attack on a law enforcement officer. Sergeant Donohue shares his story, his mindset, and the lessons he learned from surviving a deadly encounter with armed suspects. Sgt. Donohue was involved in the pursuit of and shootout with the Boston Marathon bombers in Watertown, Mass., where he nearly lost his life.
- Jason R. Collins, Assistant Section Chief of the FBI's Weapons of Mass Destruction Intelligence Analytical Section, WMD Directorate, will be doing a presentation on Unmanned Aerial Systems: Threat and Mitigation Considerations.

## **To Register for the Conference:**

To register for the conference, please use this link:

https://usaouttraining.org/ConferenceRegistration2018

A special note: How you submit your name, title, and agency on the registration form is how it will appear on your conference name badge

Please **register by Wednesday, Aug. 22, 2018**. Early registration is encouraged. We reach maximum capacity for our venue each year and generally are not able to approve late registrations. (We do maintain a waiting list and use it to fill cancellations as they occur.)

[Continued on page 4]

We use the online registration to confirm registration acceptance, send follow-up emails about the conference, and to produce nametags and course training certificates. The process works best if you can register using the online form. (If the link in this document does not work, try copying and pasting it in your browser.) If you are unable to get it to work, please send your name, agency, title, e-mail, phone number, and work address to melodie.rydalch@usdoj.gov)

A special note: If you register for the conference and later find that you are unable to attend, please use the link you receive with your registration confirmation email to cancel your attendance. This will allow us to accept conference registrations from as many people as possible.

### **Hotel Information**

The Sheraton Hotel is holding a block of rooms for conference attendees. If you need overnight accommodations at the Sheraton, please call the hotel's in-house reservation number at 888-627-8152 and reference the Utah Anti-Terrorism Conference rate. The rooms are \$124 per night (federal per diem rate). **The last day to make a hotel reservation is Monday, Aug. 6, 2018**.

The hotel is located at 150 West 500 South in Salt Lake City. Other hotels in the area include Little America, Red Lion, Hilton, and Holiday Inn. The Sheraton has a lot of free parking. However, we encourage sharing rides if you can. If the hotel lot is full, there is a public parking lot just east of the hotel.

We will remind you again, but feel free to bring snacks and drinks with you to the conference or be prepared to purchase them at the hotel during conference breaks. We cannot use our budget to pay for food. (There is a gift shop and a Starbucks at the hotel. Other options nearby.)